

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of the State Treasurer Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission Boston, MA 02114

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

FISCAL YEAR 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission ("ABCC"), as authorized by Section 71 of Chapter 10 of the General Laws, has supervisory and investigatory responsibility over the conduct and condition of traffic in alcoholic beverages, including the manufacturing, importing, exporting, storing, transporting and selling of said alcoholic beverages as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 138 of the General Laws.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 71 of Chapter 10 of the General Laws, we have the honor to produce the annual report of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission detailing the conduct and condition of traffic in alcoholic beverages during the **fiscal year ending June 30**, **2015**. Below please find a statement of the income generated by fees for licenses and permits issued by the Commission under Chapter 138 of the General Laws. The report includes the number and type of all alcoholic beverages licenses issued in **calendar year 2014**.

In fiscal year 2015, the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission generated approximately \$4,583,000 in revenue for the Commonwealth, an increase of 8.4% over fiscal year 2014. The ABCC also assisted the Department of Unemployment Assistance, the Department of Industrial Accidents, the Massachusetts Lottery, and the Department of Revenue in collecting \$13,100,000 in back tax payments and penalties. These results were achieved with an annual budget of \$2,284,000, twenty-six employees, and the fifth lowest ratio of enforcement agents to licensees in the country.

Financial Statement:

Summary of Income Received from Fees for Licenses and Permits Issued by the Commission under Chapter 138 of the General Laws

Manufacturers' License Fees	§19, all alcohol	\$327,904.00
	§19, wine and malt beverages	
	§19E, distilleries	
	§19C, breweries	
	§19B, wineries	
	§19D, pub brewery	
	§19F, winery shipment	
Wholesalers' and Importers' License Fees	§18, all alcoholic beverages	\$1,005,622.00
	§18, wine and malt beverages	
B. 744 1 1 1 1 1 2 5	§18, sacramental wines	Φ 5 0 2 400 00
Retail Alcohol Application Fees	§12, on-premises	\$592,400.00
	§15, off -premises	
Agents', Brokers' or Solicitors License Fees	Additional Package Store §18A	\$319,500.00
Railroad License Fees	§13, railroad master	\$5,500.00
	§13, railroad cars	
	§22, railroad cargo	
Airplane License Fees	§13, airline master	\$34,050.00
	§13, airline flights	
	§22, airline cargo	
Ship License Fees	§13, ship master	\$62,500.00
	§13, ship chandler	
~	§22, ship cargo	A# 000 00
Commercial License Alcohol Fees Special Permit License Fees	§76 §22A, import household effects/gifts	\$5,000.00 \$13,369.00
Special Fernite Electise Fees	charity wine	\$13,309.00
	§22A, license inventory liquidation	
	§22A Consumer Research Permits	
Storage Permit Fees	§20, bonded	\$73,100.00
	§20A, public	
	§20, storage	
	§Registration Certificate of Compliance	
Transportation Permit Fees	§22, transportation and delivery	\$594,800.00
	§22, express company permits	Φ 7 .40.700.00
Salesman Permit Fees	§19A	\$748,700.00
Caterer's License	§12C	\$103,950.00
Certificates of Compliance Fees	§18B	\$658,235.00
Fine in Lieu of Suspension Fees		\$32,209.00
Miscellaneous Income Total Receipts		\$6,317.00 \$4,583,156.00
	5,552.00) increase from fiscal year 2014.	ψτ,505,150.00
	OPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES	
General Appropriation for fiscal year 2015		2,266,976.00
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Additional Income to the Commonwealth: As stated previously, in fiscal year 2015, with the Commission's assistance, the Departments of Unemployment Assistance (DUA), and Revenue (DOR), collected taxes from delinquent licensees in the amount of \$13.1million dollars from Massachusetts alcoholic beverages licensees.

Alcoholic Beverages Licenses & Permits Issued For Calendar Year 2014:

Type	# Issued	Category
Manufacturers' License	2	§19, all alcohol
	2	§19, wine and malt beverages
	20	§19E, distilleries
	67	§19C, breweries
	66	§19B, wineries
	16	§19D, pub brewery
	73	§19F, winery shipment
Wholesalers' and Importers' License	67	§18, all alcoholic beverages
	76	§18, wine and malt beverages
	4	§18, sacramental wines
Retail Alcohol License	8,686	§12, on-premises
	2,835	§15, off -premises
	27	Additional Package Store
Agents,' Brokers' or Solicitors License	78	§18A
Railroad License	4	§13, railroad master
	89	§13, railroad cars
	0	§22, railroad cargo
Airplane License	16	§13, airline master
	378	§13, airline flights
	1	§22, airline cargo
Ship License	113	§13, ship master
	1	§13, ship chandler
	0	§22, ship cargo
Commercial License Alcohol	3	§76
Special Permit License	302	§22A, import household
	92	charity wine
	22	§22A, license inventory
	4	§22A Consumer Research
Storage Permit	0	§20, bonded
	20	§20A, public
	16	§20, storage
Transportation Permit	1,556	§22, transportation and delivery
	3,743	§22, express company permits
Salesman Permit	2,162	§19A
Certificates of Compliance	2,595	§18B
Caterer's Section 12C License	50	§12C

In calendar year 2014, the Commission issued 23,186 licenses, certificates and permits for alcoholic beverages (2.3% increase over calendar year 2013) and processed 30,217 license transactions (a 3% increase over calendar year 2013).

Commission Hearings:

The ABCC conducts hearings for charges filed by Commission Investigators; license applications; licensees that are delinquent in taxes due DOR, DUA, or lottery proceeds; industry-level franchise cases; and also provides the first level of administrative review for licensees aggrieved by a decision of the local licensing authorities. The Commission scheduled 368 and conducted 194 hearings in fiscal year 2015. Below are the hearing types:

Hearing Type	
Violation	128
Informational (license applications)	30
Appeals	26
Tax /Lottery	0
Public Hearing	0
25E	10
Withdrawn	45
Continued	136

Investigation and Enforcement Division:

Special Investigators of the Investigation and Enforcement Division are appointed by the Chairman pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 10, §72. The Investigators are authorized and directed, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 138, §56, to make all needful and appropriate investigations to enforce the Liquor Control Act.

License Application Investigations

In 2014 the Enforcement Division completed 3376 investigations of license applicants, which was an increase of 440 investigations (15%) over 2013, while operating at a 13% staff reduction. On average, investigators completed these investigations in 14 days, which was an improvement of 4 days (22%) over 2013.

Enforcement Actions

The ABCC strives to safeguard the people of Massachusetts against a wide variety of public safety threats that can arise from the illegal use of alcoholic beverages, such as underage drinking and service to intoxicated persons. The ABCC has prevented thousands of underage individuals from possessing or transporting alcoholic beverages, thousands of adults from unlawfully procuring alcohol for these underage individuals, and hundreds of individuals from possessing false identification. For this performance level, the ABCC has repeatedly received national awards and recognition for innovation and effectiveness.

Complaints

In calendar year 2014, 344 complaints filed with the Commission were investigated and closed. The Enforcement Division receives complaints from the general public, municipal and state police, state agencies, as well as various public interest groups. These complaints range from underage drinking, sale of alcohol to intoxicated individuals, illegal gambling activity, illegal alcoholic beverages and illegal narcotics activity.

Violations

In calendar year 2014 the Enforcement Division conducted operations in over 200 municipalities throughout the Commonwealth. Investigators observed approximately 249 violations of the Liquor Control Act and filed 159 reports to the Commission for prosecution. These violations ranged from sale of alcohol to underage individuals, sale of alcohol to intoxicated individuals, illegal gambling, illegal alcoholic beverages, illegal narcotics activity, and criminal ownership interests of licensed premises.

In addition, the Investigation and Enforcement Division conducted a series of special operations:

• Minimum Purchase Age Compliance Checks

The objective of compliance checks is to prevent the sale of alcoholic beverages to underage individuals by licensed establishments throughout the Commonwealth. The primary focus is to educate licensees and to increase their vigilance for checking proof of age. In Calendar Year 2014, the agency conducted Compliance Checks, in 230 municipalities across the Commonwealth. The Investigators conducted operations in 2,178 licensed establishments, of which 63 failed (3%). This represents an outstanding success rate of 97%, and puts <u>Massachusetts well above the national average</u> success rate of 84%.

Enhanced Liquor Enforcement Programs

The Commission has also implemented programs to proactively target specific events and time periods where alcohol related incidents are problematic for specific communities. These programs include Operation Safe Campus, Operation Safe Prom and Graduation, Operation Safe Summer, and Operation Safe Holidays.

The objective of these operations is to prevent the procurement of alcoholic beverages by and for underage individuals and to prevent the sale of alcohol to visibly intoxicated individuals.

To encourage family involvement and intervention in addressing the problem of underage drinking, the Division has implemented a parent notification program to inform parents, at the time of the incident, of the situation in which their child is involved. Investigators have found this intervention to be very effective.

In 2014 these programs produced the following results: 721 minors in possession or transporting alcoholic beverages; 176 adults procuring alcohol for minors; 29 individuals in possession of false identification; and 382 cases of beer and 342 bottles of alcohol were confiscated by Investigators, preventing delivery to approximately 4,948 underage individuals. Since 2005 these programs have resulted in the following cumulative results: 5,704 minors in possession or transporting alcoholic beverages; 2,557 adults procuring alcohol for minors; 598 individuals in possession of false identification; and 3,133 cases of beer and 2,305 bottles of alcohol were confiscated by Investigators, preventing delivery to approximately 40,234 underage individuals.

• Illegal Gambling Enforcement

The Investigation and Enforcement Division has conducted numerous enforcement operations involving illegal gambling at licensed premises throughout the Commonwealth. The primary focus of these investigations is the illegal use of electronic poker machines for the purpose of illegal gambling.

In 2014 the Enforcement Division brought 40 illegal gambling charges against 12 bars. Since 2009 the Enforcement Division has filed charges against 85 bars and liquor stores in the Commonwealth.

• Cooperative Enforcement with State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies

The Enforcement Division works in cooperation with municipal and state law enforcement agencies in order to obtain optimal enforcement coverage. Most often these efforts are generated from requests for assistance from municipal police chiefs who have problematic licensees in their communities. Further, when a complaint is received at the ABCC, Investigators reach out to police departments to conduct cooperative enforcement operations when feasible.

In 2014 the Enforcement Division continued to work in cooperation with the State Fire Marshall to ensure compliance with the Massachusetts Fire Code, particularly at large venues where overcrowding and improper fire prevention measures have been problematic. The Division also conducted enforcement operations at the large concert and sports venues in cooperation with municipal, state and county law enforcement agencies, as well as with the assistance of venue management. This enforcement effort includes liquor stores in close proximity to these venues prior to the event, parking lot enforcement up until the beginning of the event and enforcement within the licensed premises.

The Division conducted these operations at the Xfinity Center, Gillette Stadium, Blue Hills Pavilion and Fenway Park. The results of these operations included: 287 minors in possession of alcohol; 51 furnishing alcohol to minors; 9 medical assists; 15 intoxicated or incapacitated assists as well as the seizure of 118 bottles of alcohol and 91 cases of beer, preventing delivery to approximately 1,540 underage individuals.

Education and Training

The ABCC utilizes our specialized knowledge to provide training services to a multitude of audiences. We provide educational training seminars for local licensing authorities, police departments, and state and federal agencies.

Commission Outreach Seminars

In FY2015, the ABCC conducted 15 outreach seminars focusing on eLicensing, licensing, and compliance issues. 441 individuals attended these seminars, representing 297 municipalities, from every county in the Commonwealth.

• Training of Municipal and State Law Enforcement

The Investigation and Enforcement Division works with Massachusetts police academies and police departments to educate local and state law enforcement officers in the enforcement of the Massachusetts Liquor Control Act, as well as false identification and fraudulent document detection. This training enhances the prevention of underage drinking and over service by developing police knowledge of and involvement in liquor law enforcement. In calendar year 2014, this training was provided for 376 police officers.

Legislative Changes:

During fiscal year 2015, 28 bills were enacted regarding alcoholic beverages licenses. The Legislature and the Governor's Office requested that the Commission provide comments on the background and legality of these bills. Each of these bills falls into one or more of three categories: a) excess quota licenses; b) conversion of seasonal licenses to annual licenses; and, c) direct amendments to certain sections of MGL Chapter 138.

The enacted Bills addressed one of these three categories as follows:

- A. Twenty-three Bills¹ created excess quota licenses in eighteen different communities² through the communities' exercise of their right to "home-rule" as it exists under the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights. These bill accounted for the addition of seventy-one all-alcohol Ch. 138, §12 (on-premises) licenses, eleven wine and malt Ch. 138, §12 (on-premises) licenses, two all-alcohol Ch. 138, §15 (off-premises) licenses, and one wine and malt Ch. 138, §15 (offpremises) license in the Commonwealth;
- B. Two Bills³ in one community⁴ authorized the conversion of a seasonal license to an annual license that would exist above the population-based quota;
- C. Five Bills authorized amendments to MGL Chapter 138.
 - o Chapter 165, § 162, Acts of 2014 amended § 19F to allow United States wineries to ship directly to consumers in Massachusetts.
 - o Chapter 165, § 161, Acts of 2014 amended § 19B to further clarify laws around sampling of wines.
 - o Chapter 182, Acts of 2014 amended the opening hours allowed for package stores licensed under §15 from 12:00 noon on Sundays to 10:00am on Sundays.
 - o Chapter 287, § 71-75B, Acts of 2014 increased the Boston quota, adding additional licenses over the course of three years, all of which will be restricted to certain neighborhoods within the city limits.
 - o Chapter 454, Acts of 2014 amended § 14A to allow malt beverages and distilled spirits, in addition to the previously approved wine, to be sold at auction.
 - Chapter 494, Acts of 2014 amended § 19B to expand the allowance of sale to various types of consumers / wholesalers.

¹ Acts of 2015, Chapters 34, 43, 44

Acts of 2014, Chapters 194, 301, 310, 312, 315, 316, 325, 347, 348, 353, 356, 357, 358, 364, 368, 393, 396, 398

² Greenfield, Montague, New Bedford, Holyoke, Easton, Boston, Topsfield, Milton, Woburn, Stoneham, Ipswich, Hudson, Beverly, Mansfield, Walpole, Wareham, Salem, Arlington

³ Chapters 330 & 329, Acts of 2014

⁴ Southborough

Legislative Recommendations

The Commission makes the following legislative recommendations regarding the traffic and conduct of the beverages alcohol licenses industry in the Commonwealth:

• Criminal Background Checks for License Applicants

M.G.L. c 138 §12 provides that "No license shall be issued to any applicant who has been convicted of a violation of a federal or state narcotic drugs law"; M.G.L. c. 138, §15, provides that "No license shall be issued to any applicant who has been convicted of a felony"; and c. 138, §26 provides that "such manager or representative is, with respect to his character, satisfactory."

The current Commission has implemented several changes to enhance criminal background checks, including the submission of Massachusetts criminal records through electronic processing which provides almost immediate reporting for all individuals with a beneficial interest in a license. However, the Commission does not have the authority to obtain national criminal record offender information, and as a result, the current system is inadequate to ensure that all proposed applicants meet the statutory requirements to hold a license.

In order for this agency to obtain national criminal record information, legislation must be enacted which authorizes the agency to obtain this information. At the agency's request, Senate Bill 196 was filed and is pending before the legislature.

• Safety and Authority of Commission Investigators

M.G.L. c. 10, §72 authorizes the appointment of ABCC Investigators for the purpose of enforcing the penalties provided by law against every person who is guilty of a violation of M.G.L. c. 138 of which they can obtain reasonable proof, and further states that said Investigators, "shall make all necessary and appropriate investigations for that purpose." In addition, this section mandates that each person appointed as an investigator shall complete a basic reserve police officer training course through the criminal justice training council, and shall attend a basic training course conducted by the Commission, and that all investigators shall attend an annual in-service training course pursuant to this section. Commission investigators are further obligated by M.G.L. c. 138, §56, to make all needful and appropriate investigations to enforce the penalties provided by law against every person who is guilty of a violation of this chapter and provides the Investigators with powers of arrest for violations of M.G.L. c. 138.

However, the statute does not address the issue of an investigator's authority when confronted with a volatile situation. The Commission has concerns regarding the safety of its investigators who are consistently investigating licensed premises at late hours, which may involve inebriated individuals in dangerous situations. In order to mitigate this situation, and attempt to enhance the investigators' safety, the Commission has adopted a practice of having the investigators appointed and sworn as Deputy Sheriffs in several counties. However, this process is time consuming and logistically challenging. In addition, not all counties allow this.

In order for this agency to protect the safety of its investigators, legislation must be enacted which authorizes investigators to have all the power of a police officer in a city or town, with reference to enforcement of the laws, excluding M.G.L. c. 90. At the agency's request, Senate Bill 203 was filed and is pending before the legislature.

• Criminal Background Prohibitions for License Applicants

M.G.L. c. 138, §12, provides that, "No license shall be issued to any applicant who has been convicted of a violation of a federal or state narcotic drugs law": M.G.L. c. 138, §15, provides that "No license shall be issued to any applicant who has been convicted of a felony" and M.G.L. c. 138, §26 provides that "such manager or representative is, with respect to his character, satisfactory."

The current statute has not been reviewed in decades, and its language can cause harsh results. For example, the current statute would prohibit an applicant with a fifty year old drug conviction from opening a business with a §12 liquor license, but would not prohibit an applicant with other serious felony convictions from holding the same license.

In a growing world with an aging population, it would be helpful for the Commission to have discretion in considering an individual's criminal offender record information. Accordingly, the Commission recommends that \$12, 15, and 26 be amended to mirror M.G.L. c. 23K, the "casino" statute, which allows for the Commission to consider the applicant's rehabilitation and whether such conviction should be an automatic disqualification under this section. In considering the rehabilitation of an applicant, the Commission shall not automatically disqualify an applicant if the applicant affirmatively demonstrates, by clear and convincing evidence, that the applicant has financial responsibility, character, reputation, integrity, and general fitness as such to warrant belief by the Commission that the applicant will act honestly, fairly, soundly and, efficiently as a licensee.

• Ownership of a Restaurant and Liquor Store in the Same Town

M.G.L. c. 138, §17 provides that "...local licensing authorities shall not grant licenses to any person, firm or corporation under more than one section of this chapter." This precludes local licensing authorities from issuing an on-premises and an off-premises alcoholic beverages license to any person, firm or corporation in the same town. This restriction may be detrimental to small and/or family businesses, particularly in small municipalities, and does not meet the needs of a growing and changing industry.

Accordingly, the Commission recommends that the following legislation be enacted:

§17 of c. 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by deleting the following: Unless expressly authorized by this chapter, local licensing authorities shall not grant licenses to any person, firm, or corporation under more than one section of this chapter.

• Farmer Brewery Enterprises

The Farmer Brewer current definition does not meet the growing and changing industry. Accordingly, the Commission recommends that the following legislation be enacted:

Section 1 of c. 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by deleting "Farmer-brewer", any person who grows cereal

grains or hops for the purpose of producing malt beverages and who is licensed to operate a farmer-brewery under §19C;" and inserting in its place the following:— "Farmer-brewer", any person who grows or imports cereal grains or hops for the purpose of producing malt beverages, and who is licensed to operate a farmer-brewery under §19C.

Section 1 of c. 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by deleting "Farmer-brewery", any plant or premise where malt beverages are produced from the fermentation of malt with or without cereal grains or fermentable sugars, or of hops, provided that said hops or cereal grains are grown by the farmer-brewer, and inserting in its place the following:— "Farmer-brewery", any plant or premise where malt beverages are produced from the fermentation of malt with or without cereal grains or fermentable sugars, or of hops.

• Civil Citations for Violations of Chapter 138, §§ 34, 34A, 34B and 34C

The current statute provides for criminal penalties for violations of §§ 34, 34A, 34B and 34C. To file criminal charges against the thousands of individuals found in violation of these statutes would not be feasible given the current Commission resources. Further, it would result in a criminal record for young people found violating these minor offenses. However, the most common complaint heard from industry retailers is that they are subject to administrative penalties and the underage person that initiated the violation does not receive any consequences for their actions. Many states allow for civil citations to be issued by liquor enforcement officers. Accordingly, the Commission recommends that the following legislation be enacted:

§2 of c. 138 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting the following:

As an alternative to initiating criminal proceedings for violations sections 34, 34A, 34B, and 34C of chapter 138, any investigator of the Commission may issue a civil citation for violations of said laws in the amount of the criminal fine provided for said violation, to be paid within 21 days of the date of issuance of such citation. Any person aggrieved by any citation issued pursuant to this section may appeal said citation by filing a notice of appeal with the Commission within seven days of the receipt of the citation. Any such appellant shall be granted a hearing before the Commission in accordance with chapter 30A. The Commission may affirm, vacate or modify the citation. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Commission may file an appeal in Superior Court pursuant to the provisions of said chapter 30A. If a person fails to comply with the requirement set forth in any citation issued pursuant to this section, or shall fail to pay any civil penalty provided thereby within 21 days of the date of issuance of such citation, or within 30 days following the decision of the Commission if such citation has been appealed, excluding any time during which judicial review of the Commission's decision remains pending, the Commission may apply for a criminal complaint against such person for the violation, or may initiate a civil action in District Court. All monies collected by the Commission under said civil citations shall be credited to the general fund.

Commission Initiatives:

The Commission has established objectives to comport with its mission to supervise all aspects of the alcoholic beverages industry as well as the quality, purity and alcoholic content thereof. These objectives include: streamlining the licensing process for both internal and external users; enhancing transparency for all stakeholders; increasing communication and collaboration with all the municipalities; building strong relationships with other agencies; overhauling operations to create internal and external efficiencies; and utilizing technology to assist with limited resources.

Specific actions toward these objectives have included:

• eLicensing Project

In 2012, the ABCC and the Division of Professional Licensure procured Accela software, a comprehensive and robust Elicensing solution for licensing agencies. Accela provides a single gateway for businesses and individuals to apply for and manage their alcoholic beverages licenses. Using Accela will increase efficiency and productivity by reducing license management and enforcement cycle times, streamlining business processes, and eliminating outdated legacy systems.

The electronic licensing system will allow the ABCC to continue in its mission to improve customer service, enhance transparency, streamline administrative processes, and provide better service to municipalities, to our licensees and applicants, and to the general public. Applicants will be able to apply for, renew and update licenses/permits online, see "real-time" status reports of the application process, access "real time" quota information about any city or town, request public records, garner updates on hearing and decision information, and file complaints, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Much progress has been made since the project's inception in 2012. On March 9, 2015, the ABCC went live with the first release of the eLicensing application. The agency is happy to report that Certificate of Compliance Holders and airline licensees can now apply, manage, and renew their licenses on-line.

The next scheduled release is February 2016, when the remainder of the state licenses will be on line. The final release is slated for August of 2016, when the retail licenses will go live. The ABCC has been communicating with licensees to keep them informed of the ABCC's progress, and has conducted outreach seminars and provided user guides and instructional information to aid the navigation through the registration process of the eLicensing portal.

• Electronic Document Management System & Scanning and Conversion

In addition to the Accela solution, there are two parallel projects underway to bridge any gaps in the agency's paper-based data. A recent estimate showed that the ABCC houses over five million paper documents, some dating back to the 1940's, within its license files. As part of the effort to "go paperless," the Commission requested and was awarded capital funds in FY15 to scan all its documents and hold them in an easily searchable, comprehensive electronic document management system ("EDMS"). A requirement of

the EDMS was that it would seamlessly integrate with Accela, improving the efficiency of both systems.

The EDMS Project will convert all of the agency's paper files to electronic files and index them for searching and retrieving. Once implemented, all of the ABCC's paper files will be searchable electronically.

In the field, investigators will have the ability to research the history of any licensee, the current owners and managers, and see any and all documentation associated with that license, on their mobile devices. Finally, through the full integration with Accela, all forms, supporting documentation and licensee information will be in one place, easily accessible and searchable, thus increasing efficiency and transparency for the agency.

The ABCC and ITD started two separate procurement processes in fiscal year 2014: one from ITD for an enterprise-wide, cloud hosted EDMS and another from the ABCC for the scanning and conversion to electronic version of all of its paper documents. Much progress has been made in both areas. The enterprise-wise, cloud hosted EDMS, OnBase, was completely configured to meet the needs of the ABCC and is running on all ABCC computers.

The scanning and electronic capture project has also made significant strides in FY2015. To date, the ABCC has scanned over 5,000 license files and is looking forward to completing the project by early 2016.

General Remarks:

We wish to express our appreciation to the Local Licensing Authorities for the cooperation and assistance they have given us in the administration and enforcement of the Liquor Control Act. We also want to express our appreciation to the members of House of Representatives and the Senate and particularly the Joint Legislative Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure for the courtesy which they have shown us and for the earnest and sincere manner in which they approached consideration of proposed amendments to the Liquor Control Act.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

Kim S. Gainsboro, Esq.,

Chairman